

In the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended):

An animal litter adapted to be used for animals that do not bury their elimination where the litter comprises:

a granular substance having a granular width substantially between 6mm -- 12mm and having an aspect ratio substantially between 1 -- 1 and 1 -- 26 where the granular substance has a bulk density above 12 pounds per cubic foot, the granular substance having a nonconstant cross sectional area being substantially rounded and lacking angular ends.

Claim 2 (currently amended)

The litter as recited in claim 1 where the ~~litter is not uncomfortable to the animal because it is rounded and it lacks angular ends~~ granular substance is formed by a rolling operation in a drum to form substantially spherical balls.

Claim 3 (original):

The litter as recited in claim 2 where the granular substance is made from being rolled in a drum.

Claim 4 (currently amended):

The litter as recited in claim 3 where the granular substance is not made from a process being extruded and having a substantially constant cross-sectional area and not formed from an extrusion process.

Claim 5 (currently amended):

The litter as recited in claim 1 whereas, the granular substance has the qualities of remaining in a bin and is not easily discharged from a bin containing the granular substance by the action of the animal.

Claim 6 (currently amended):

The litter as recited in claim 1 where the granular substance is free from protruding edges and increases the surface area to engage a paw of the large animal.

Claim 7 (original):

The litter as claimed in claim 6 where the granular substance does not remain in the animal's fur or feathers and is safe for contact with the animal.

Claim 8 (currently amended):

The litter as claimed in claim 1 ~~further comprising where the~~ granular substance is made from a cellulose based material.

Claim 9 (currently amended):

The litter as claimed in claim 8 where the granular substance is as ~~are~~ made from short fiber cellulose waste material.

Claim 10 (currently amended)

The claim as recited in ~~claim 1~~ claim 8 where the animal is a dog.

Claim 11 (original);

The litter as recited in claim 1 where the bulk density of the litter is substantially between 18 and 25 pounds per cubic foot.

Claim 12 (currently amended):

The ~~apparatus-litter~~ as recited in claim 1 where the absorption ratio is greater than .5.

Claim 13 (original)

The litter as recited in claim 11 where the absorption ratio is greater than 1.

Claim 14 (currently amended):

The litter as claimed in claim 5 ~~further comprising where the~~ substance is made from a cellulose based material.

Claim 15 (currently amended):

The litter as claimed in claim 14 where the granular substance is as ~~are~~ made from short fiber cellulose waste material.

Claim 16 (original):

The litter as recited in claim 15 where the absorption ratio is greater than 1.

Claim 17 (currently amended):

A method of providing a litter for an animal other than domestic cats comprising the steps of:

providing a granular substance where a substantial portion of the granular substance has a functional width of greater than 6 mm and further having an aspect ratio between 1—1 and 1—6 where the granular substance is contained in a containing bin and the granular substance has a sufficient mass that resists being discharged from the bin due to the animal's activity where the bulk density is greater than 12 pounds and less than 30 pounds per cubic foot and the granular substance being substantially free from protruding edges as to not discomfort the animal,
where the animal discharges their elimination onto granular substance and the granular substance absorbs a portion of the fluid from the elimination.

Claim 18 (original)

The method as claimed in claim 17 where the granular substance is made from short fiber cellulose waste material.

Claim 19 (original)

The method as recited in claim 17 where the granular substance has an absorption ratio of greater than .5.

Claim 20 (currently amended):

The method as recited in claim 17 where the granular substance is made from being rolled in a drum ~~the bulk density of the granular substance is between 15-50 pounds per cubic foot.~~